

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A carbon dioxide external administration device comprising:
 - a sealing enclosure member capable of sealing a body surface from outside air;
 - the sealing enclosure member having a sealed inside space for holding carbon dioxide gas therewithin a sealed inside space;
 - a gas supply for supplying carbon dioxide gas into the inside space of the sealing enclosure member; and
 - an absorption aid that is provided in the inside space of the sealing enclosure member, which contains a carbon dioxide-dissolving medium for dissolving carbon dioxide gas, and dissolves carbon dioxide gas to assist transdermal or transmucosal absorption of the carbon dioxide;
 - wherein the absorption aid is a viscous material containing sodium alginate or propylene glycol alginate.
2. (Previously Presented) The carbon dioxide external administration device according to claim 1, further comprising a carbon dioxide amount indicator that expands upon carbon dioxide being supplied into the sealing enclosure member, and contracts upon a decrease of carbon dioxide, wherein the carbon dioxide amount indicator is provided separately from the sealing enclosure member.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The carbon dioxide external administration device according to claim 1, wherein the carbon dioxide absorption aid is a sheet product.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously Presented) The carbon dioxide external administration device according to claim 1, wherein the sealing enclosure member is made from any one of the following materials (1) – (3):

- (1) a non-elastic and hard material,
- (2) a flexible material having a shape holding ability, and
- (3) an elastic and flexible material.

7. – 12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The carbon dioxide external administration device according to claim 1, wherein the viscous material further contains sodium carboxymethyl cellulose.

14. (Previously Presented) The carbon dioxide external administration device according to claim 13, wherein the viscous material further contains sodium dihydrogen phosphate.

15. (Previously Presented) The carbon dioxide external administration device according to claim 1, wherein the absorption aid viscous material does not contain a carbonate.

16. (New) A method for transdermal or transmucosal absorption of carbon dioxide by a human which comprises:

applying an absorption aid which is a viscous material containing sodium alginate or propylene glycol alginate on to a surface of a human;

providing over the absorption aid a sealing enclosure member for sealing a body surface from outside air and having a sealed inside space to hold carbon dioxide gas there within; and

supplying carbon dioxide gas into the sealing enclosure member to provide for transdermal or transmucosal absorption of the carbon dioxide through the absorption aid into the human.

17. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the viscous material is an acidic viscous material having pH of 6.5 to 4.